

Department of Justice

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INDIANA MAN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT

DAYTON, OHIO— Lance Alan Murray, 25, of Kendallville, Indiana, was sentenced to a mandatory term of two years in prison for aggravated identity theft in an attempted bank fraud scheme.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Kurt Douglass, Special Agent in Charge, United States Secret Service, announced the sentence delivered today by United States District Judge Walter H. Rice.

According to the statement of facts filed with Murray's plea agreement, Murray attempted to cash a counterfeit check for \$15,000 at a Dayton area Ace American Cash Express (ACE) on December 11, 2007, using a false identity card he obtained from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). Murray illegally obtained a State of Ohio ID card from BMV in the name of a real individual earlier in December, after presenting a genuine social security card issued to that individual. Murray's attempt to negotiate the counterfeit check was thwarted by ACE personnel, who contacted law enforcement when Murray presented the false ID and claimed he received the check from the sale of his truck.

Aggravated identity theft carries a mandatory two year prison term. Murray will serve a one year on supervised release at the conclusion of his prison sentence.

"Identity theft can have significant economic impact on its victims and the financial institutions that fall prey to these schemes," Lockhart said. "Fortunately, this incident resulted in the arrest of the perpetrator before any loss occurred."

Lockhart commended the Secret Service agents who conducted the investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Tabacchi, who prosecuted the case.